CLAIMS

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is as follows:

1. A method of calculating a risk exposure for a disaster recovery process, said method comprising:

   loading a user interface into a memory, said user interface allowing control of an execution of one or more risk models, each said risk model being based on a specific disaster type, each said risk model addressing a recovery utilization of one or more specific assets identified as necessary for a recovery process of said disaster type; and

   executing, at least one time, one of said risk models.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

   loading at least one of said risk models into one of a local computer memory and a local memory of a computer at a remote location, said loading allowing said executing of said model.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said risk models is based on a Poisson distribution function.

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4. The method of claim 1, wherein said specific disaster type comprises at least one of a:

hurricane;

earthquake;

flood; and

power outage.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said risk models include at least one of:

an overall risk exposure that assess a risk that said one or more specific assets will be adequate to recover from said disaster;

a disaster outlook to assess a consequence of a recent or anticipated disaster at a specific location; and

a customer risk assessment to access a risk for an individual customer.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein each said risk model includes at least one parameter selectable in a random manner.

7. The method of claim 2, wherein at least one of said GUI and said risk models are stored in a remote computer and said loading comprises a transfer of at least said GUI to a local computer.

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8. The method of claim 6, further comprising:

executing said model a number of times, each execution based on a random setting of at least one said parameter selectable in a random manner.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said number of times is established by at least one of:

entering a number of runs to be executed; and

entering an accuracy of a result, said accuracy causing said model to be executed repeatedly until said accuracy is attained.

10. An apparatus configured to calculate a risk exposure for a disaster recovery process, said apparatus comprising:

a user interface allowing control of an execution of one or more risk models, each said risk model being based on a specific disaster type, each said risk model addressing a recovery utilization of one or more specific assets identified as necessary for a recovery process of said disaster type; and

an execution command switch for commanding an execution of at least one of said risk models.

11. A network configured to calculate a risk exposure for a disaster recovery process, said network comprising at least one of :

a first computer having:

a user interface allowing control of an execution of one or more risk models, each said risk model being based on a specific disaster type, each said risk model addressing a recovery utilization of one or more specific assets identified as necessary for a recovery process of said disaster type; and

an execution command switch for commanding an execution of at least one of said risk models; and

a second computer having a memory storing at least one of said risk models.

12. A signal-bearing medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform a method of calculating a risk exposure for a disaster recovery process, said method comprising:

loading a user interface into a memory, said user interface allowing control of an execution of one or more risk models, each said risk model being based on a specific disaster type, each said risk model addressing a recovery utilization of one or more specific assets identified as necessary for a recovery process of said disaster type; and

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executing, at least one time, one of said risk models.

13. A method of objectively quantifying consequences of an event, said method comprising:

loading one or more models concerning said event into a memory, at least one of said models predicting a consequence of said event, said predicting based on an historical data of said event;

executing at least one of said risk models a plurality of times, each time using at least one parameter that is selected at random; and

using a result of said executing to quantify a probability of a consequence of said event.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said event comprises a disaster.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said consequence comprises a utilization of resources provided by a disaster recovery service.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said resources comprise at least one of a use of a computer and a use of a computer-related component.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein at least one of said models is based on a probability function having parameters approximating an historical data of the occurrence of said event.

18. A signal-bearing medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform a method of method of objectively quantifying consequences of an event, said method comprising:

loading one or more models concerning said event into a memory, at least one of said models being based on predicting a consequence of said event, as based on an historical data of said event;

executing at least one of said risk models a plurality of times, each time using at least one parameter that is selected at random; and

using a result of said executing to quantify a probability of a consequence of said event.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein at least one of said models is based on a probability function having parameters approximating an historical data of the occurrence of said event.

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20. A method of operating a disaster recovery service, said method comprising:

acquiring access to a tool that calculates a risk exposure for a disaster recovery process, said tool having one or more risk models, each said risk model being based on a specific disaster type, each said risk model addressing a recovery utilization of one or more specific assets identified as necessary for a recovery process of said disaster type; and

advertising that said disaster recovery service utilizes said tool as a technique to control an inventory of said assets.

21. The method of operating a disaster recovery service of claim 20, further comprising at least one of the following:

assessing a risk against a real inventory and a sum of all contracts;

allocating a cost of a contract as a result of calculating a probability of a disaster in a location;

assessing an asset requirement before a predicted disaster actually strikes a location;

locating assets to overcome a predicted asset shortage based on a prediction of occurrence of a disaster; and

offering price point differentials to customers located outside a high-risk disaster area.